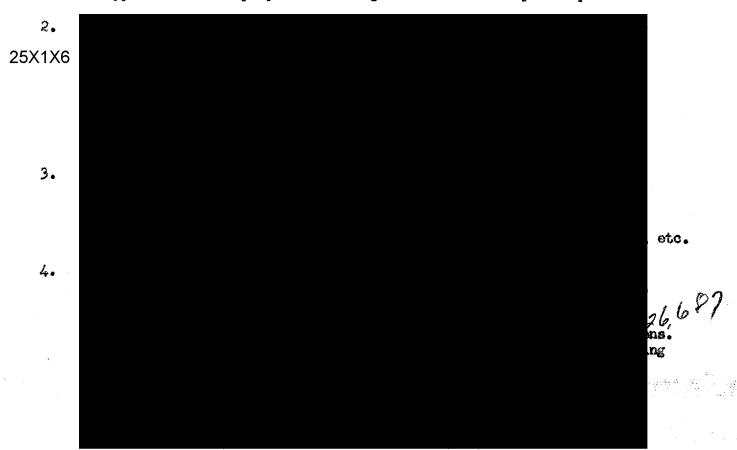
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France	//
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Typical Christmas Party in Smal	1 Factory
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25X1A6a	33 pictures
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U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY	CIA OFFICIALS ONLY SECRET
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FORM NO. 57-27 PREVIOUS EDITIONS NOT TO BE USED

25X1A6a

1. You will find attached a series of photographs of a party given in a hall near our factory for the Christmas Tree, to which all the employees and their families came. These are pictures of typical French employees and management in a friendly atmosphere.



Proposition.

5. There are also photographs of the entertainers - clowns, singers, etc - who gave a show for the amusement of the children. This started about Approved how Release 1989/03/10: CIARDES 109429/R99144042040945941th cakes and the like. According to everyone the party was very enjoyable.

Truthfully I have rarely seem a more cordial atmosphere. Everyone was laughing all the time.

- on 10 Jan 54. Actually, the personnel wanted the party and the distribution of presents to take place after the Christmas gaiety and the New Year, because during that period many of them left the plant to visit their families, and in any case their children received their gifts in their own homes. Therefore, each year, we have our party after the holidays. All the preparations for the affair were turned over to the employees and the management did not interfere in any way other than to contribute 50 percent of the cost, the other 50 percent being furnished by the personnel themselves.
- 7. Why did we have such a happy and friendly atmosphere in our Plant? We had made certain gestures toward the workers at the end of the year which were greatly appreciated. Many of them came up to me during the party to thank me personally. Naturally, the question of raises in salary still faces us and we are in the middle of discussions on the matter, but I think that we will reach an agreement without any real difficulty.
- 8. I cannot help but wonder though whether the smiles and good humor of the Communists at this time are not the result of following the Moscow line or whether the atmosphere is genuinely relaxed. Perhaps this feeling of well being now experienced will disgust the French with the idea of participating in the European Army. It is possible that everyone will think "why should we put ourselves in a difficult position when actually there is no danger in the air?" The winter thus far has not been too hard and the usage of heat, which is always a burden in the homes of the poor, has not aggravated budgets too much. The harvest was excellent and prices have not gone up much this winter. The franc is stable and there is a distinct falling off of gold. The poor say "so much the worse for those who have it".
- 9. Finally, then, the question faces the Chamber of Deputies whether the Communists have not maneuvered France into such an atmosphere of well being that it would appear monstrous to put the country into an army which will give the Germans an opportunity again to be on a war footing.
- 10. It struck me a year ago that the union leaders have sufficient power to turn the country upside down from one day to another. Therefore, I feel that the French must not be deluded by the apparent relaxation of problems. The people who control the levers of command over the masses of workers can bring on the storm, strikes, and Approved For French 1991/19/10: GIARDP83-00423R001400420001-9